

Message Text

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OED:DBAKER/RWILBOURN

STATE/AFN:GEORGE LANE (IN SUBSTANCE)

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R 271506Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS STATE 038945

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BPRO, EAGR, LY, MO

SUBJ: VISIT TO U.S. OF LARG OFFICIAL

REF: TRIPOLI 0202

1. USDA AND INDUSTRY CONTACTS, INCLUDING AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE CONSULTANTS (ASAC) AND AMERICAN SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION (ASTA) BOTH WASHINGTON BASED, INDICATE THAT MEANINGFUL ITINERARY CAN BE ARRANGED FOR LARG OFFICIAL. URGENT THAT SUFFICIENT ADVANCE NOTICE AND OTHER PARTICULARS AS TO EXACT DATES, LENGTH OF STAY, SPECIAL INTERESTS, ETC. BE CABLED SOONEST.

2. ALL CONTACTS INCLUDING USDA AGREE THAT EXTENT OF INTEREST OUTLINED REFTTEL COVERS SEVERAL HIGHLY TECHNICAL DISCIPLINES WHICH WILL ULTIMATELY REQUIRE EXPERTISE IN MANY FIELDS SUCH AS AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING FOR KUFRA PROJECT PROBLEMS, AGRON-
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OMIST FOR PROPER SEEDS, AND AGRI-SOIL SPECIALIST AND ECONOMIST

FOR TAZERBO FEASIBILITY STUDIES. SEVERAL U.S. CONSULTANT FIRMS CAPABLE OF FEASIBILITY STUDY AS OUTLINED BUT WOULD REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION ON NATURE AND SCOPE OF STUDY IN ORDER TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF INTEREST AND WHETHER TRIP TO LIBYA WORTHWHILE.

3. ASAC (FRANK FRAZIER) SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY OF TALKS WITH U.S. CONSULTANTS HAVING WIDE EXPERIENCE IN AGRICULTURE SOIL AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND CAPABLE OF MAKING AN ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION IN DETERMINING BEST COURSE OF ACTION FOR THE SEVERAL PROJECTS OUTLINED. ASAC HIGHLY RECOMMENDS DR. CLAUDE L. FLY, FT. COLLINS, COLORADO AS HAVING UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS THIS FIELD, SERVED MANY YEARS WITH FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO) U.N., ROME, AND WORKED ON SIMILAR PROJECTS IN OVER 20 AFRICAN COUNTRIES. DR. FLY AVAILABLE FOR TALKS WITH LARG OFFICIAL IN U.S. BUT CANNOT VISIT LIBYA PRIOR TO PROPOSED U.S. TRIP END OF MARCH. FRAZIER (ASAC) AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN IDENTIFYING AND CONTACTING OTHER U.S. CONSULTANTS AS NEEDED.

4. DR. HAROLD LODEN, ASTA, 1030-15TH ST., N.W., SUITE 964, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 AND U.S.D.A. SEED EXPERTS ALSO AVAILABLE TO ARRANGE CONTACTS WITH APPROPRIATE SEED COMPANIES INCLUDING VISITS TO FARMS AND FACILITIES, OR FOR U.S. SEED SUPPLIERS TO MEET WITH LARG OFFICIAL AT A CONVENIENT CENTRAL LOCATION. LODEN STATES HE WILL NEED TO KNOW THE EXACT KINDS OF CROPS NOW GROWN ON PASTURE LANDS IN LIBYA. SEVERAL U.S. COMPANIES CAPABLE OF FILLING SEED REQUIREMENTS, LARGELY LOCATED WEST COAST U.S.

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE IT APPEARS PREFERABLE THAT LARG OFFICIAL VISIT THE U.S. TO DISCUSS PROJECTS WITH SEVERAL CONSULTANTS PRIOR TO ANY VISITS BY U.S. FIRMS TO LIBYA. OTHER INTERESTS INCLUDING INSPECTION AGRI-SOIL AND WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, VISITS TO FARMS, FEED PLANT FACILITIES CAN ALSO BE SERVED DURING VISIT. CASEY

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